

Student's name: _____ C.A1

Read and answer the questions below

How much can you learn in a month?

My name is Anna Baker. I work for a magazine, which was doing an article about British language learners. As an experiment, they asked me to learn a completely new language for one month. Then I had to go to the country and do some 'tests' to see if I could 'survive' in different situations. I decided to learn Polish because my great-grandmother was Polish and I have some relatives there. I can already speak French and Spanish quite well but Polish isn't a Latin-based language so I knew it would be completely different.

I took a one-month intensive course at a language school in Birmingham. I thought I was good at languages before I started learning Polish, but now I'm not so sure. I found it incredibly difficult. The grammar was really complicated and the words were not like any other language I know so it was very hard to remember **them**. For example, I thought 'football' was more or less an international word, but in Polish it's *piłka nożna*. And the pronunciation is unbelievable! Every word is full of z's where you don't expect them, like *jeździsz* which means 'you go'.

My course finished yesterday and I'm going to Krakow for the weekend to take my tests. A local guide called Kasia is coming with me and is going to give me a mark out of 10. These are the tests and the rules:

Tests

You have to...

1. get a taxi.
2. order a drink in a bar.
3. ask for directions (and follow them).
4. phone and ask to speak to someone.
5. ask somebody the time.

Rules

- you mustn't use a dictionary or phrasebook.
- you mustn't speak English at any time.
- you mustn't use your hands or mime.

1) What was Anna's experiment about?

to write an article to learn a new language in a month to teach British language learners

2) Anna already knew these languages, except for...

English French Spanish Polish

3) Where did she take the course?

in Krakow in Barcelona in Birmingham in Paris

4) The word "them" on line 8 refers to:

the grammar rules the words the z sounds the languages

5) Where is she going to take the "tests"?

in Krakow in Barcelona in Birmingham in Paris

6) This is NOT one of Anna's tests...

order some food order a drink make a phone call ask for the time

Answer the following questions with ONE word.

7) What was Anna's grandmother's nationality? _____

8) Is Polish a Latin based language? _____

9) What does *piłka nożna* mean? _____

10) What is the name of Anna's guide? _____